

AMAR
CHITRA
KATHA
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VIDYUT CHORA



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A JAINA TALE

Amar Chitra Katha

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VIDYUT CHORA

PRINCE VIDYUT AND YAMADANDA, SON OF THE KOTNAL, WERE STUDYING UNDER THE SAME GURU AT HIS ASHRAMA IN THE FOREST. ONE DAY, WHEN THEY HAD SOME LEISURE —



LET'S
PLAY,
YAMADANDA.

THIEF
AND KOTNAL?

IS THERE ANY
OTHER GAME
WORTH
PLAYING?

NO, THERE ISN'T.
GO AND HIDE. I'LL
TRACK YOU
DOWN.



A PRINCE IS EXPECTED
TO MASTER THE SIXTY-
FOUR ARTS AND THE
ART OF THIEVERY IS
ONE OF THEM.
YET...



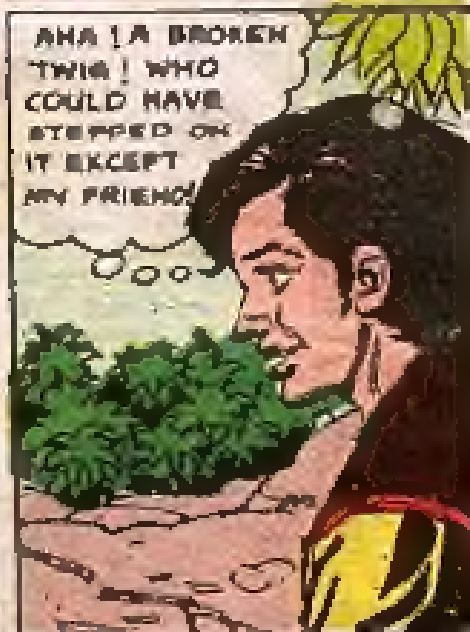
WHY SHOULD I ALWAYS
HIDE THE THIEF?

BECAUSE I'M
TRAINING TO BE
A KOTNAL,
VIDYUT.



WELL, TO CATCH
A THIEF YOU MUST
KNOW THE WAYS
OF A THIEF.









THE YEARS PASSED. VIDYUT AND YAMADANDA FINISHED THEIR STUDIES AND WERE READY TO LEAVE THEIR GURU'S ASHRAMA.

YOU WILL MAKE A GOOD KING, VIDYUT. BUT DON'T PLAY FRANKS, OR YOU WILL LOSE MEN YOU VALUE.

AND YOU WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT KOTWAL, YAMADANDA, PROVIDED YOU KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU.

WHEN VIDYUT RETURNED TO THE CAPITAL —

I HAVE GROWN OLD. I WISH TO SPEND THE REST OF MY YEARS IN THE FOREST.

YAMADANDA'S FATHER TOO RENOUNCED THE WORLD AND RETIRED TO THE FOREST.

RULE WELL AND WISELY, MY SON.

I'LL HAVE TO APPOINT A NEW KOTWAL.



WHEN VIDYUT WAS INFORMED OF HIS FRIEND'S DEPARTURE —

SO HE REMEMBERS!



IT MUST HAVE BEEN A HARD DECISION FOR HIM... BUT I WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME IN HIS PLACE.



SEND SPIES TO ALL THE NEIGHBOURING KINGDOMS. FIND OUT WHERE HE HAS GONE.



VIDYUT'S SPIES ROAMED EVERYWHERE.



AT LAST ONE OF THEM MET WITH SUCCESS.

YOU SAY HE IS IN THE SERVICE OF THE KING OF NITHILA?

YES, MAHARAJ.

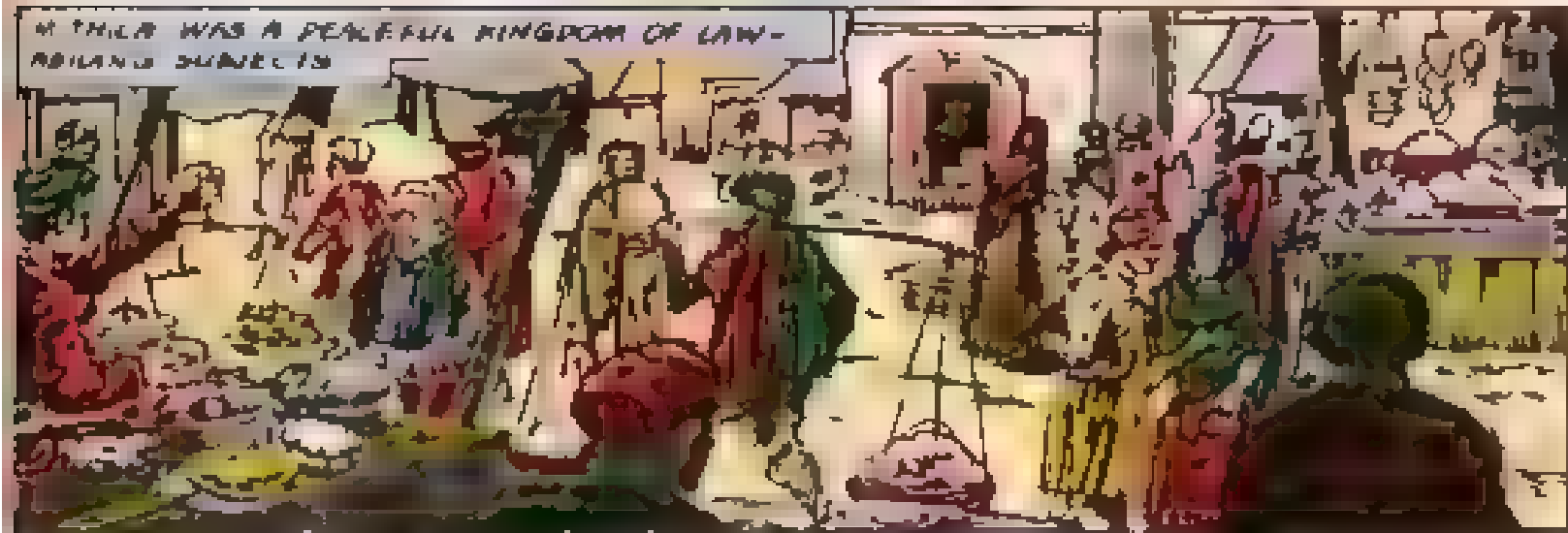




VIDYUT ENTRUSTED THE CARE OF HIS KINGDOM TO HIS FAITHFUL MINISTER, PURUSHOTHAMA, AND HIS ADVISER, VAJRASENA HEGDE, AND SECRETLY LEFT FOR MITHILA.



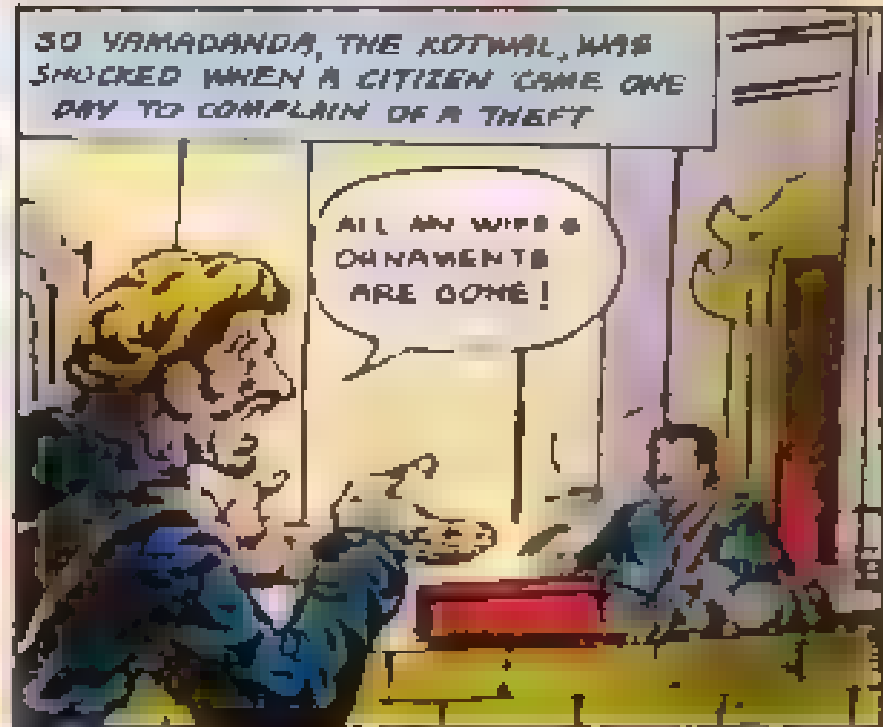
HERE WAS A PEACEFUL KINGDOM OF LAW-
ABIDING SUBJECTS



AS RABBIT WAS ALMOST UNKNOWN,
MURDERERS KEPT THEIR DOORS



SO YAMADANDA, THE KOTWAL, WAS
SHOCKED WHEN A CITIZEN CAME ONE
DAY TO COMPLAIN OF A THEFT

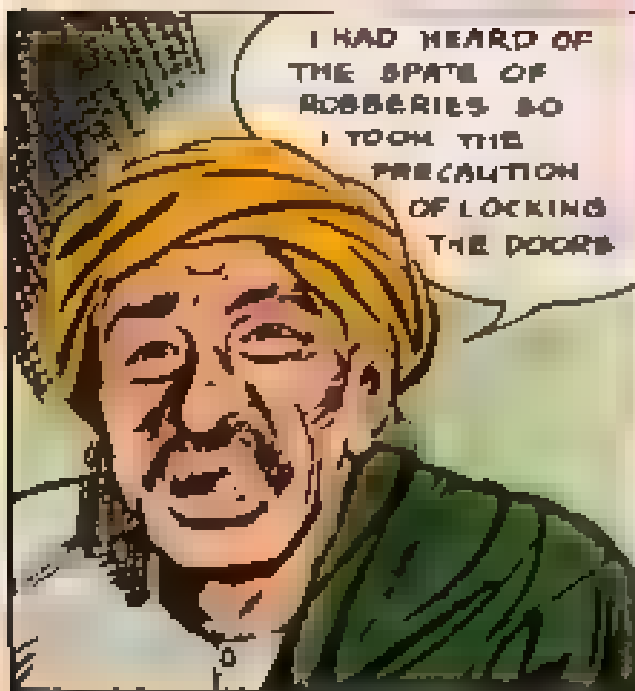


ALL MY WIFE'S
ORNAMENTS
ARE GONE!

WE HAD GONE
OUT AND WHEN
WE RETURNED WE
FOUND THAT THE
HOUSE HAD BEEN
RANSACKED!

I WILL SEND
MY MEN
WITH YOU





YAMADANDA BEGAN LOOKING FOR CLUES

THERE'S A PAINT FOOTPRINT HERE

THE FOOTPRINT OF A SMALL FOOT

PEOPLE ARE SAYING THERE'S A GANG OF CRIMINALS ON THE LOOSE

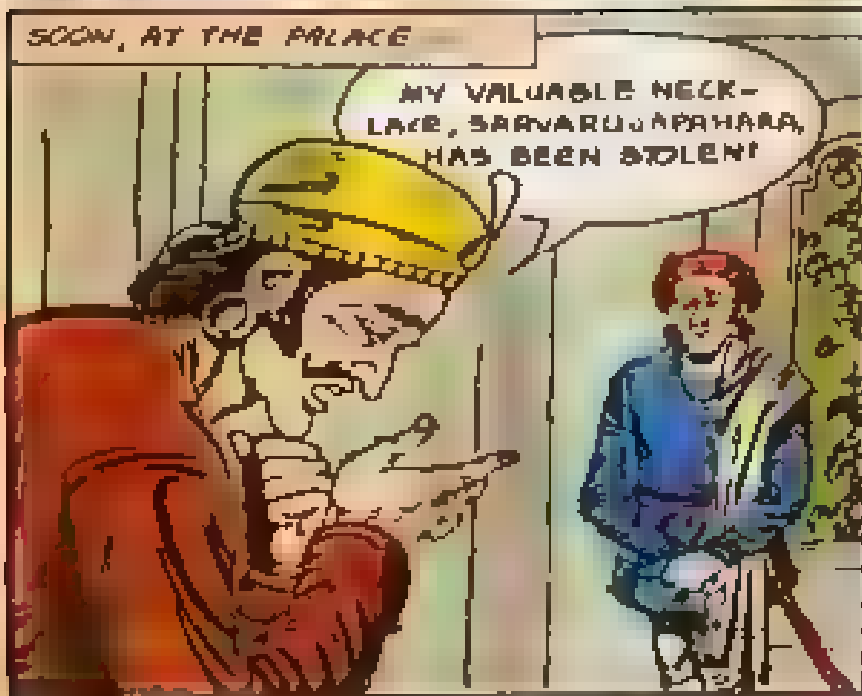
DON'T LISTEN TO RUMOURS

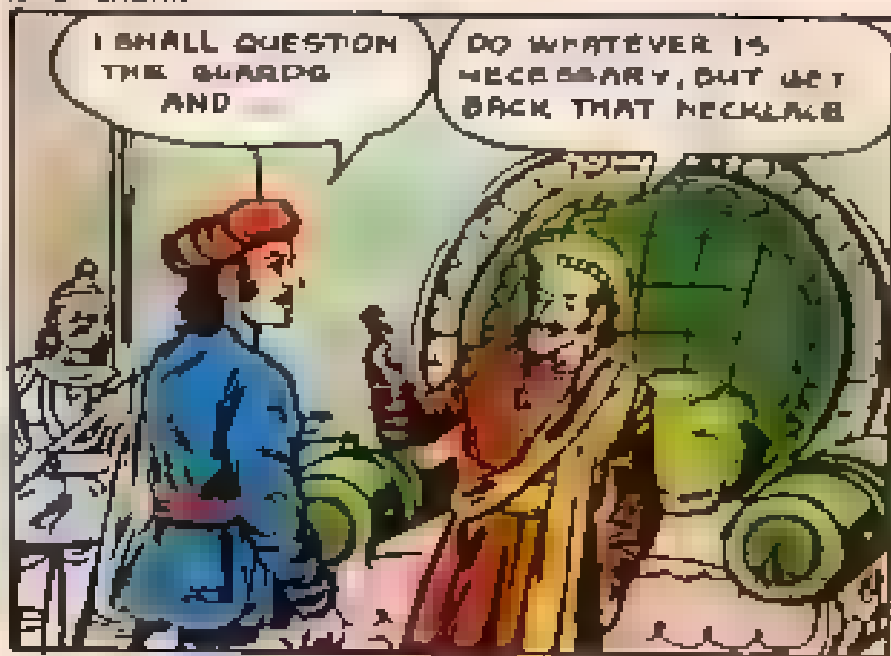
ALL THE ROBBERIES ARE THE WORK OF THE SAME MAN... AND WE'LL CATCH HIM BEFORE LONG

I AM SURE YOU WILL. BUT

BUT SOME OF THE PEOPLE HERE ARE GETTING RESTLESS

BARBAR!





IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, YAMAJANDA QUESTIONED HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE IN THE HOPE OF UNEARTHING SOME INFORMATION THAT COULD LEAD TO THE CAPTURE OF THE THIEF...



BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS

ONE WOULD THINK I WAS HUNTING A PHANTOM



ONLY A PERSON WHO HAS MASTERED THE ART OF KARAPATAVIDYA, COULD BE SO ELUSIVE



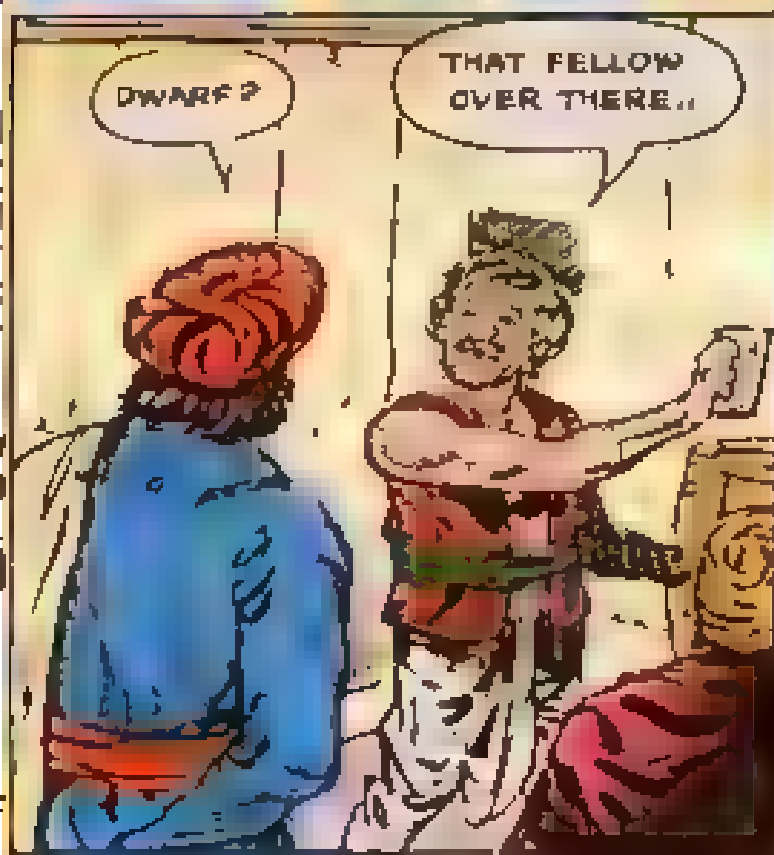
AND I KNOW OF ONLY ONE WHO HAS MASTERED THAT ART

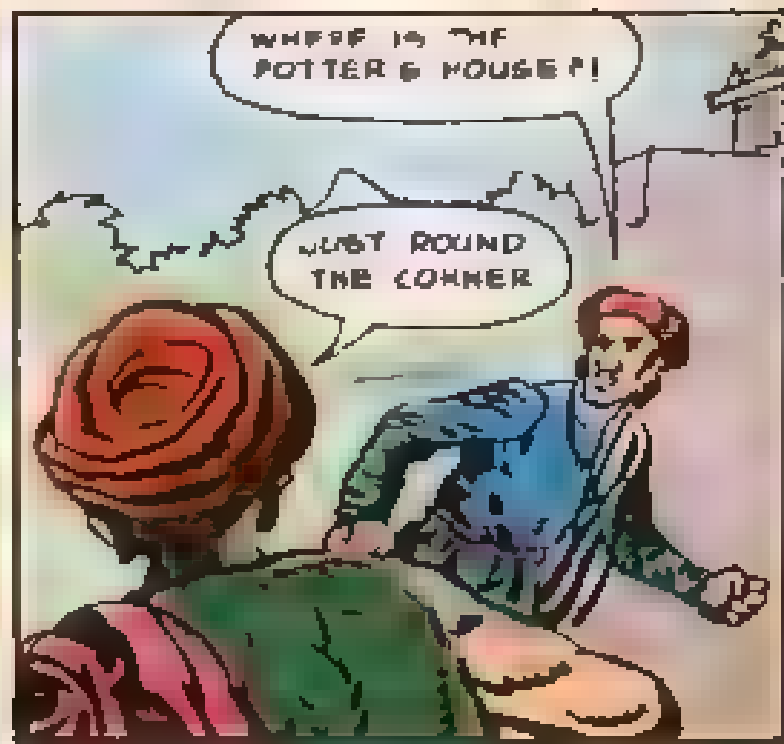


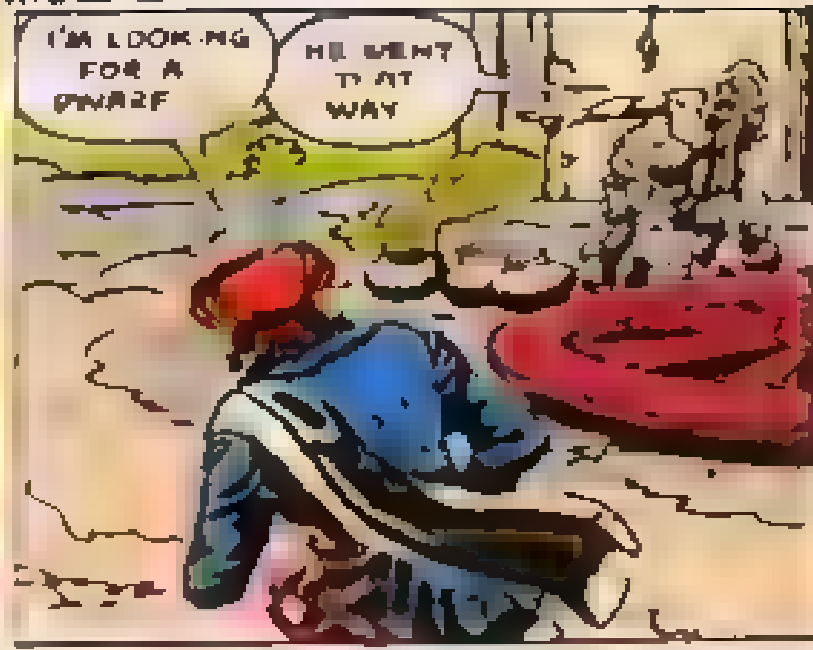
COULD HE HAVE FOLLOWED ME HERE TO

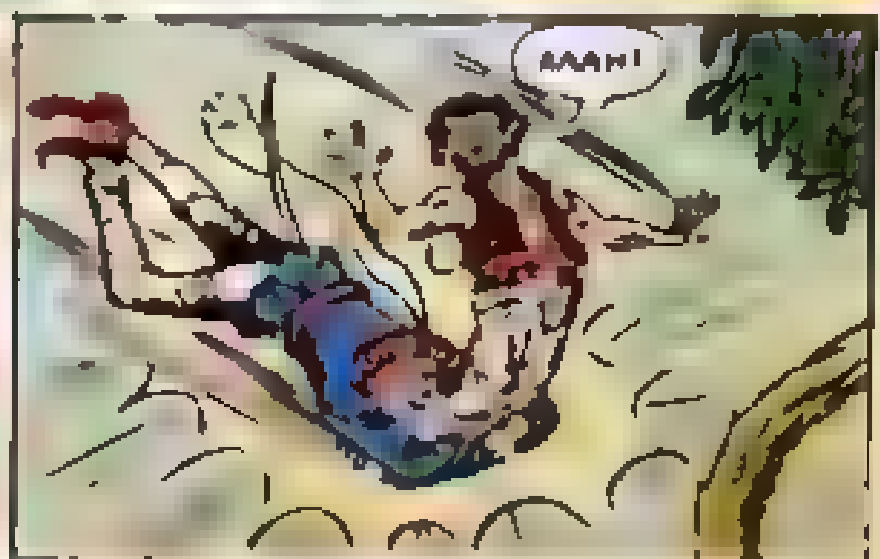
OH A TEDDY SHOP!

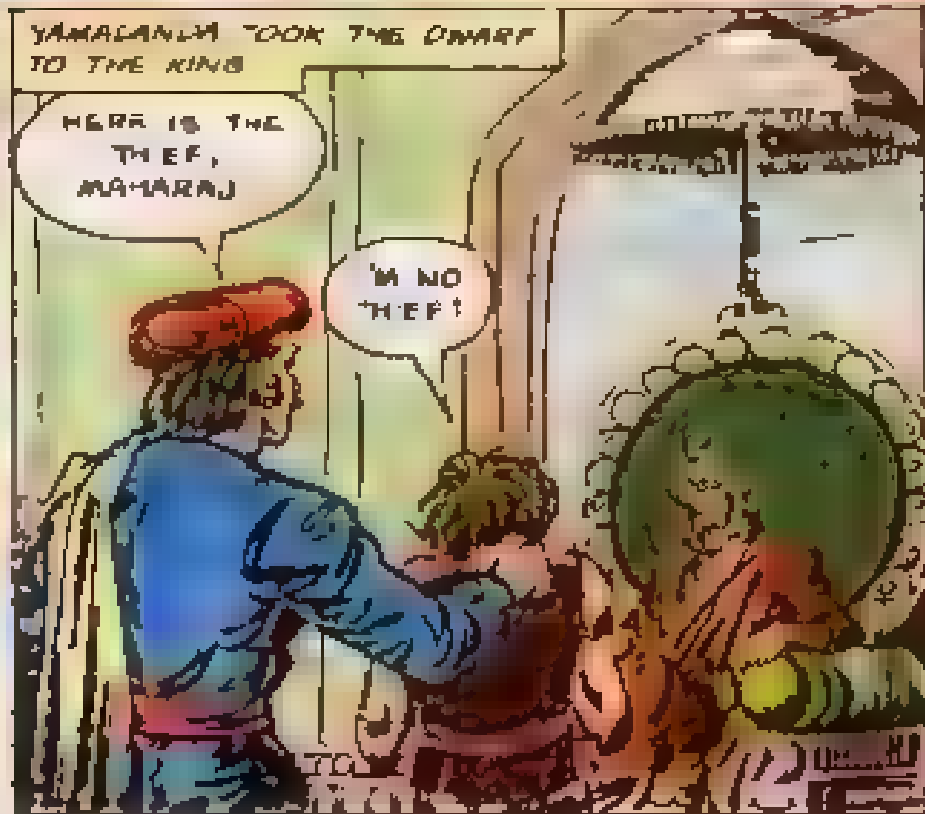






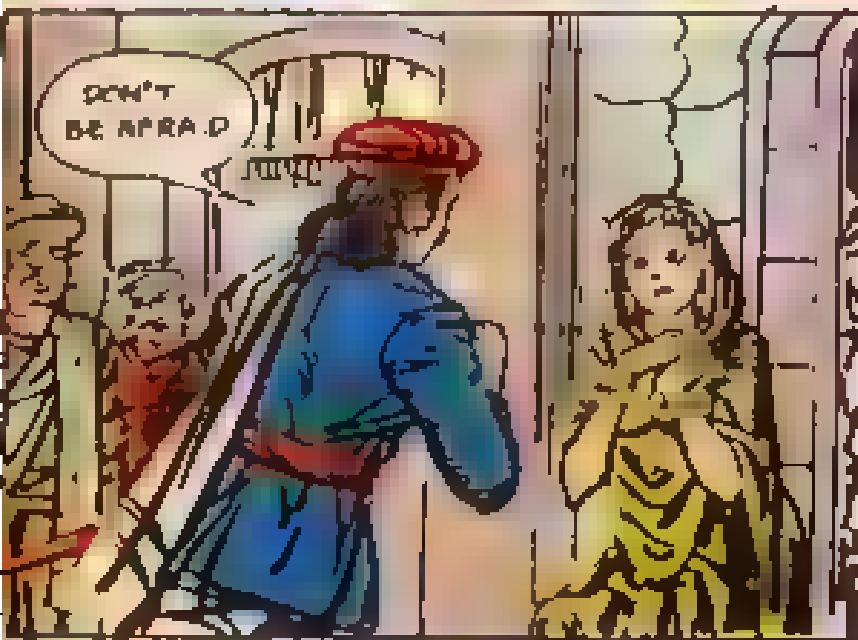


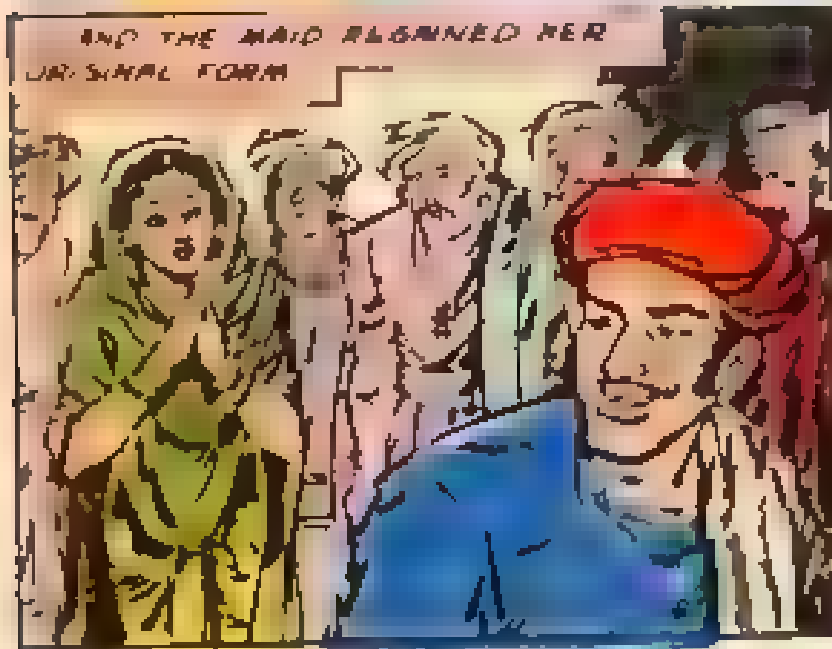














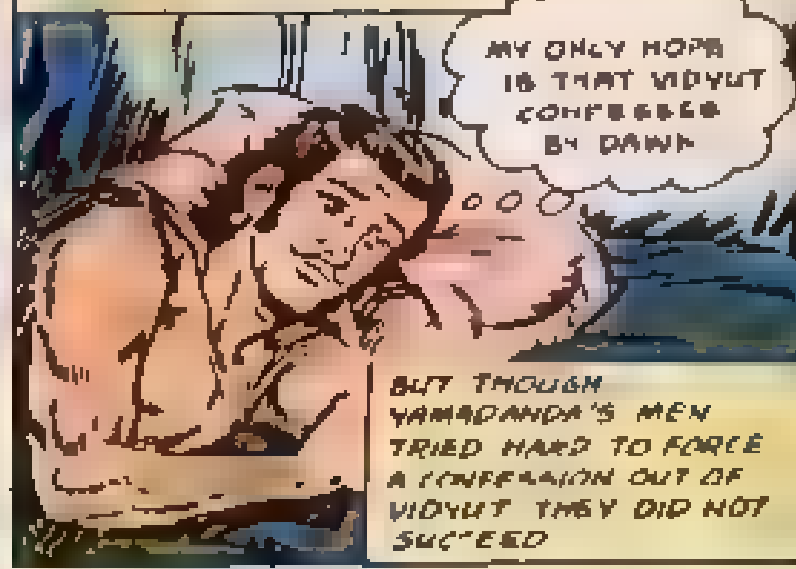
THROUGHOUT THE INTERROBATION, VIDYUT MAINTAINED THAT HE WAS INNOCENT

AT MIDNIGHT,
THE SEVEN DAYS
WILL BE UP



AND AS THE NIGHT WORE ON, YAMADANDA BEGAN TO FEEL ANXIOUS

MY ONLY HOPE
IS THAT VIDYUT
CONFESSSES
BY DAWN



BUT THOUGH
YAMADANDA'S MEN
TRIED HARD TO FORCE
A CONFESSION OUT OF
VIDYUT THEY DID NOT
SUCCEED

VIDYUT DID NOT CONFESS AND THE NEXT MORNING

I'VE FAILED TO
RECOVER THE
NECKLACE AND
TO BRING THE
THIEF BEFORE
YOU.



I AM READY FOR
MY PUNISHMENT MY
LAST WISH IS THAT
THE PRISONER
SHOULD BE
RELEASED

IT SHALL
BE DONE



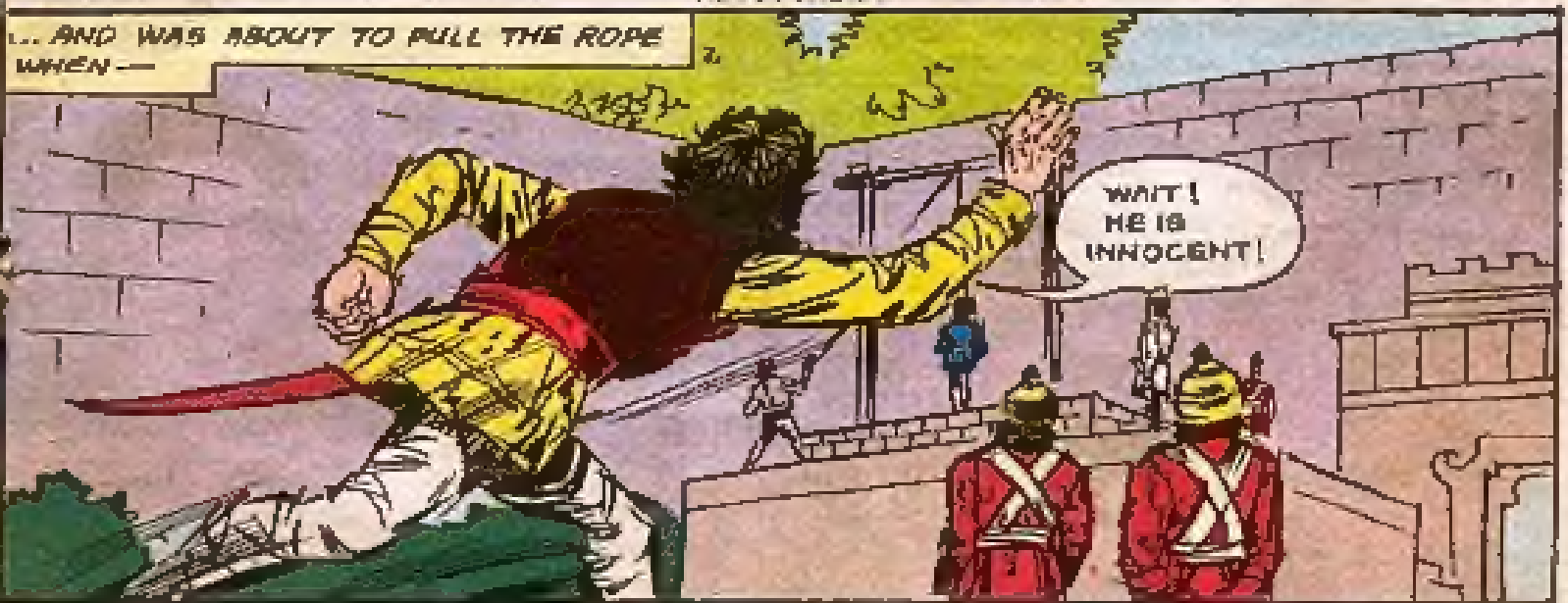
THE KOTWAL WAS
LED TO THE
GALLIOWS



THE HANGMAN
PUT THE NOOSE
AROUND HIS
NECK



... AND WAS ABOUT TO PULL THE ROPE WHEN —



AT THE PALACE, AFTER THE KING HAD BEEN TOLD WHAT HAD HAPPENED —



AFTER HE HAD FINISHED.

IS HE TELLING
THE TRUTH? OR
IS THIS A CLEVER
PLOT TO SAVE
THE KOTWAL?

JUST THEN —

MAHARAJ!

I HAVE A MESSAGE
FOR YOU FROM
VAJRASENA.

SO HE IS
INDEED
A KING!

NO TROUBLE,
I HOPE.

NO. BUT MY
MINISTERS SAY
I HAVE STAYED
AWAY TOO LONG.

THEY HAVE
REQUESTED
ME TO
RETURN.

IT IS INDEED
A PITY THAT I HAVE
MADE YOUR
ACQUAINTANCE
SO LATE...

